

ORIGINAL

EDWARD H. KUBO, JR. #2499
United States Attorney
District of Hawaii

FLORENCE T. NAKAKUNI #2286
Chief, Narcotics Section

CHRIS A. THOMAS #3514
Assistant U.S. Attorney
Room 6-100, PJKK Federal Building
300 Ala Moana Boulevard
Honolulu, Hawaii 96850
Telephone: (808) 541-2850
Facsimile: (808) 541-2958
E-mail: Chris.Thomas@usdoj.gov

Attorneys for Plaintiff
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

FILED IN THE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF HAWAII

SEP 14 2006

at 11 o'clock and 15 min. M
SUE BEITIA, CLERK

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE DISTRICT OF HAWAII

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)	CR. NO. 05-00325-07 HG
)	CR. NO. 06-00-487HG
)	
Plaintiff,)	MEMORANDUM OF PLEA AGREEMENT
)	
vs.)	
)	
DEREK AHSUI, (07))	DATE: September 14, 2006
)	TIME: 10:00 a.m.
Defendant.)	JUDGE: Honorable Barry M.
)	Kurren
)	

MEMORANDUM OF PLEA AGREEMENT

Pursuant to Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, by its attorney, the United States Attorney for the District of Hawaii, and the defendant, DEREK AHSUI (hereinafter "Defendant"), and his attorney, Lane Takahashi, Esq., have agreed upon the following:

1. Defendant acknowledges that he is charged in an Information with one (1) count of a violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 846 (Conspiracy to Possess with intent to distribute 5 grams or more of methamphetamine) and Defendant also acknowledges that he is charged in an Indictment with one (1) count of a violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 846 (Count 1 - Conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine).

A. Defendant is aware that he has a right to have this felony charge asserted against him by way of Grand Jury Indictment. Defendant hereby waives (gives up) this right and consents that this charge may be asserted against him by way of Information rather than Indictment.

2. Defendant has read the charges against him contained in the Information and the Indictment, and the charges have been fully explained to him by his attorney. In making his decision to plead guilty to the Information, Defendant has had ample opportunity to consult with his undersigned defense attorney, and Defendant is satisfied with the legal advice and representation of his defense attorney.

3. Defendant fully understands the nature and elements of the crime with which he has been charged.

4. Defendant will enter a voluntary plea of guilty to the Information. The Government agrees to move to dismiss Count

1 in the Indictment as to Defendant in this case after the sentencing of Defendant.

5. Defendant agrees that this Memorandum of Plea Agreement shall be filed and become part of the record in this case.

6. Defendant enters this guilty plea because he is in fact guilty of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute 5 grams or more of methamphetamine. Defendant further agrees that his guilty plea to the Information is voluntary and not the result of force or threats.

7. Defendant understands that the penalties for the offense to which he is pleading guilty are as follows:

- a. A term of imprisonment of not less than five year and up to forty years;
- b. A fine of up to \$2,000,000.00; and
- c. A term of supervised release of not less than four years and up to life;

Defendant must also pay a \$100 special assessment as the count to which the Defendant is pleading guilty¹. Defendant agrees to pay \$100 for each count to which he is pleading guilty to the United States Attorney's Office, to be credited to said special assessments, before the commencement of any portion of

¹ The \$100 special assessment is mandatory pursuant to Title 18 U.S.C. §3013(a)(2)(A).

sentencing. Defendant acknowledges that failure to make such full advance payment in a form and manner acceptable to the prosecution will allow, though not require, the prosecution to withdraw from this agreement at its option.

8. Defendant admits the following facts and agrees that they are not a detailed recitation, but merely an outline of what happened in relation to the charges to which defendant is pleading guilty:

During the period from on or about January 1, 2004, to and including June 22, 2005, Defendant DEREK AHSUI (hereinafter "Defendant") did enter into an agreement with his co-defendant Gary Matsuo, and others, to distribute methamphetamine in Hawaii. On November 2, 2004, Defendant was arrested on a bench warrant. Subsequent to his arrest, police officers observed in plain view drug paraphernalia in AHSUI's vehicle. A narcotic canine screen was conducted on the vehicle which resulted in a positive alert. A search warrant was obtained to search Defendant's vehicle, and upon execution of the search warrant, approximately 4.7 grams of methamphetamine and 21.3 grams of marijuana was found within the vehicle.

The methamphetamine that was found in Defendant's vehicle was submitted for a laboratory analysis which revealed a

positive result for methamphetamine with a net weight of 4.7 grams and a purity of 95%.

Upon his arrest, Defendant was advised of his constitutional rights, waived those rights and admitted that the 4 grams that was in his possession was purchased from Gary MATSUO. AHSUI stated that he picked up approximately 4 to 20 grams of methamphetamine from MATSUO per day for distribution, the total amount being approximately two (2) ounces of methamphetamine.

9. Pursuant to CrimLR32.1(b) of the Local Rules of the United States District Court for the District of Hawaii and Section 6B1.4 of the Sentencing Guidelines, the parties stipulate to the following for the purpose of the sentencing of Defendant in connection with this matter:

A. Factual stipulations:

(1) Identification and Quantity of methamphetamine:

The Defendant agrees and stipulates that the methamphetamine that was found in Defendant's vehicle was submitted for a laboratory analysis which revealed a positive result for methamphetamine with a net weight of 4.7 grams and a purity of 95%.

In addition, the Defendant and the government stipulate that the total amount of two (2) ounces is the amount to be used in determining Defendant's sentencing guideline

offense level and that the 4.7 grams of actual methamphetamine that was seized from Defendant's vehicle is inclusive within the total amount of the two (2) ounces. Therefore, of the two (2) ounce amount, 4.7 grams would be calculated as Ice, and the remainder, approximately 51.3 grams would be generic methamphetamine.

10. The defendant is aware that he has the right to appeal the sentence imposed under Title 18, United States Code, Section 3742(a). However, in exchange for the concessions made by the prosecution in this agreement, Defendant knowingly and voluntarily waives the right to appeal, any sentence imposed by the Court, including any order of restitution, and the manner in which that sentence was determined. The only exceptions to this complete waiver are that Defendant retains the right to appeal: (1) any sentences that exceeds the maximum punishment permitted under law; (2) the upward departure portion of his sentence if the Court, in imposing sentence, departs (as that term is used in Part K of the Sentencing Guidelines) upward from the guideline range determined by the Court to be applicable to the defendant

a. The defendant also waives his right to challenge his sentence or the manner in which it was determined in any collateral attack, including, but not limited to, a motion brought under Title 28, United States Code, Section 2255, subject only to the exception that the defendant may make such a

challenge based on a claim of ineffective assistance of counsel.

b. The prosecution retains its right to appeal the sentence and the manner in which it was determined on any of the grounds stated in Title 18, United States Code, Section 3742(b).

11. The defendant understands that the District Court in imposing sentence will be bound by the provisions of the Sentencing Guidelines. Subject to the exceptions noted in the previous paragraph, the defendant is surrendering his right to challenge any sentence within the statutory maximum, or the manner in which it was determined, including, but not limited to, a sentence that the defendant perceives to be an incorrect application of the Guidelines. The defendant further agrees that there is no promise or guarantee of the applicability or non-applicability of any Guideline or any portion thereof, notwithstanding any representations or predictions from any source.

12. The defendant understands that pursuant to Guideline 6B1.1(c), this Agreement cannot be accepted or rejected by the Court until there has been an opportunity by the Court to consider a Presentence Report, unless the Court decides that a Presentence Report is unnecessary pursuant to Guideline 6A1.1. The defendant understands that the Court will not accept an agreement unless the Court determines that the charges contained

in the Information adequately reflect the seriousness of the actual offense behavior and accepting the agreement will not undermine the statutory purposes of sentencing.

13. Defendant understands that by pleading guilty he surrenders certain rights, including the following:

a. If defendant persisted in a plea of not guilty to the charges against him, he would have the right to a public and speedy trial. The trial could be either a jury trial or a trial by a judge sitting without a jury. The defendant has a right to a jury trial. However, in order that the trial be conducted by the judge sitting without a jury, the defendant, the prosecution, and the judge all must agree that the trial be conducted by the judge without a jury;

b. If the trial is a jury trial, the jury would be composed of twelve laypersons selected at random. Defendant and his attorney would have a say in who the jurors would be by removing prospective jurors for cause where actual bias or other disqualification is shown, or without cause by exercising peremptory challenges. The jury would have to agree unanimously before it could return a verdict of either guilty or not guilty. The jury would be instructed that the defendant is presumed innocent, and that it could not convict him unless, after hearing all the evidence, it was persuaded of his guilt beyond a reasonable doubt;

c. If the trial is held by a judge without a jury, the judge would find the facts and determine, after hearing all the evidence, whether or not he or she was persuaded of the defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt;

d. At a trial, whether by a jury or a judge, the prosecution would be required to present its witnesses and other evidence against the defendant. Defendant would be able to confront those prosecution witnesses and his attorney would be able to cross-examine them. In turn, defendant could present witnesses and other evidence on his own behalf. If the witnesses for the defendant would not appear voluntarily, he could require their attendance through the subpoena power of the Court; and

e. At a trial, the defendant would have a privilege against self-incrimination so that he could decline to testify, and no inference of guilt could be drawn from his refusal to testify.

14. Defendant understands that by pleading guilty, he is waiving all of the rights set forth in the preceding paragraph. Defendant's attorney has explained those rights to him and the consequences of the waiver of those rights.

15. Defendant and his attorney acknowledge that no threats, promises, or representations have been made, nor agreement reached, other than those set forth in this Agreement, to induce Defendant to plead guilty.

16. Should the Court refuse to accept this Agreement, it is null and void and neither party shall be bound thereto. The parties understand that the Court's rejection of any stipulation between the parties does not constitute a refusal to accept this Agreement since the Court is expressly not bound by stipulations between the parties.

17. Defendant understands that the prosecution will apprise the Court and the United States Probation Office of the nature, scope and extent of defendant's conduct regarding the charge against him, related matters, and any matters in aggravation or mitigation relevant to the issues involved in sentencing.

18. The defendant agrees that he will fully cooperate with the United States.

a. He agrees to testify truthfully at any and all trials, hearings, or any other proceedings at which the prosecution requests him to testify, including, but not limited to, any grand jury proceedings, trial proceedings involving co-defendants and others indicted later in the investigation, and related civil proceedings;

b. Defendant agrees to be available to speak with law enforcement officials and to representatives of the United States Attorney's Office at any time and to give truthful and

complete answers at such meetings, but he understands he may have his counsel present at those conversations, if he so desires;

c. Defendant agrees he will not assert any privilege to refuse to testify at any grand jury, trial, or other proceeding, involving or related to the crime in the Information or any subsequent charges related to this investigation at which the prosecution requests him to testify;

d. Should any criminal prosecution be brought against Defendant by the U.S. Attorney's Office, the prosecution will not offer in evidence in its case-in-chief, or in connection with any sentencing proceeding for the purpose of determining an appropriate sentence, any statements made by Defendant at any and all debriefing meetings related to this case, except in a prosecution for false statements, obstruction of justice, or perjury. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Defendant understands that any information or testimony provided by Defendant may be used in furtherance of any civil forfeiture proceeding brought by the United States Attorney to obtain property which was proceeds of, or facilitated, Defendant's drug trafficking activity;

e. Notwithstanding paragraph 18(d) above, the prosecution may use (i) information derived directly or indirectly from any and all debriefing meetings for the purpose of obtaining and pursuing leads to other evidence, which evidence may be used in any prosecution of Defendant by the prosecution,

and (ii) statements made by Defendant at any and all debriefing meetings and all evidence obtained directly or indirectly from those statements for the purpose of cross-examination should Defendant testify, or to rebut any evidence offered by or on behalf of Defendant in connection with the trial and/or at sentencing, should any prosecution of Defendant be undertaken; and

f. Pursuant to Section 1B1.8(a) of the Sentencing Guidelines, the prosecution agrees that self-incriminating information provided pursuant to this Agreement to cooperate will not be used in determining the applicable guideline range, except as may be provided in this Agreement and under Section 1B1.8(b) of the Sentencing Guidelines.

g. If, after entering this plea agreement, however, the Defendant makes a motion before the Court to withdraw from the plea agreement and the Court grants that motion, the Defendant agrees that any statement he makes to law enforcement agents or to the United States Attorney's Office may be used against him in a subsequent trial. Defendant waives any protection afforded by Rule 11(e)(6) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure and Rule 410 of the Federal Rules of Evidence regarding the use of statements made during the course of pleading guilty when the guilty plea is later withdrawn.

19. In the event that the defendant does not breach any of the terms of this Agreement but the Court nonetheless refuses to accept the Agreement after defendant has made statements to law enforcement authorities or representatives of the United States Attorney's Office pursuant to this Agreement, the prosecution agrees not to use said statements in its case-in-chief in the trial of the defendant in this matter. Defendant understands that this does not bar the use of information and evidence derived from said statements or prohibit the use of the statements by the prosecution in cross-examination or rebuttal.

20. Pursuant to Guideline Section 5K1.1 and Rule 35(b), Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, the prosecution may move the Court to depart from the Guidelines on the ground that the defendant has provided substantial assistance to authorities in the investigation or prosecution of another person who has committed an offense. Pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 3553(e), the prosecution may also move the Court to impose a sentence below the level established by statute as a minimum sentence for the Information on the ground that defendant has provided substantial assistance in the investigation or prosecution of another person who has committed an offense. Defendant understands that:

a. The decision as to whether to make such a request or motion is entirely up to the prosecution.

b. This Agreement does not require the prosecution to make such a request or motion.

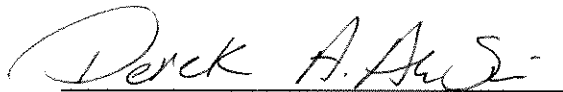
c. This Agreement confers neither any right upon the Defendant to have the prosecution make such a request or motion, nor any remedy to Defendant in the event the prosecution fails to make such a request or motion.


d. Even in the event that the prosecution makes such a request or motion, the Court may refuse to depart from the Guidelines or to impose a sentence below the minimum level established by statute.


DATED: Honolulu, Hawaii, _____.

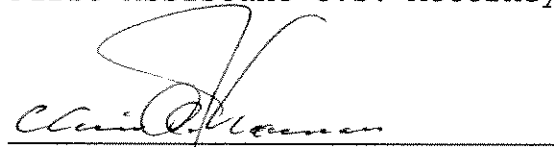
AGREED:

EDWARD H. KUBO, JR.
United States Attorney
District of Hawaii


DEREK AHSUI
Defendant


FLORENCE T. NAKAKUNI
First Assistant U.S. Attorney


LANE TAKAHASHI
Attorney for Defendant


CHRIS A. THOMAS
Assistant U.S. Attorney

USA v. Derek Ahsui
Memo of Plea Agreement
Cr. No. 05-00325-07 HG
Cr. No. 06-00 HG